

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03
IO-13 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 NEA-10 /084 W
-----099763 181410Z /43

P R 181200Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8183

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORT, ICAO, EAIR, TU

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1977 ELECTIONS TO ICAO COUNCIL: TURKISH
REQUEST FOR US SUPPORT

REF: STATE 157377

SUMMARY: TURKISH FOREIGN OFFICE HAS CIRCULATED TO ANKARA
DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF TURKISH CANDIDACY
FOR SEAT ON COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGAN-
IZATION (ICAO). EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT USG DISSOCIATE
TURKISH CANDIDACY FROM ERCAN AIRSPACE ISSUE AND AEGEAN AIRSPACE
DISPUTE AND DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO SUPPORT TURKEY ON SAME GROUNDS
APPLIED IN CONSIDERING ALL OTHER CANDIDATES.

IN MEETING WITH ECONOMIC COUNSELOR JUST BEFORE NOTE WAS
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CIRCULATED, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
URGED US VOTE IN FAVOR OF TURKEY AND PROVIDED INFORMATION
CONCERNING NEW ROTATIONAL GROUPINGS WITHIN COUNCIL
AND PROBABLE CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL SEATS. END SUMMARY.

1. TURKISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS CIRCULATED
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN ANKARA FOLLOWING NOTE

DATED JULY 12, SEEKING SUPPORT FOR ELECTION OF TURKEY TO
COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
(ICAO):

BEGIN TEXT

(COURTESY OPENING OMITTED)

...AND HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM THEM THAT TURKEY WILL
BE STANDING FOR ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (ICAO) AT THE 22ND
ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD FROM 13 SEPTEMBER TO 15 OCTOBER 1977.

TURKEY IS AMONG THE FOUNDER MEMBERS OF THE ICAO SINCE ITS
ESTABLISHMENT IN 1944 AND HAS SERVED AS A COUNCIL MEMBER
ONCE, BETWEEN 1947 AND 1950.

SITUATED GEOGRAPHICALLY HALFWAY ON THE MAIN AIR ROUTES
BETWEEN THE EAST AND THE WEST, THE EAST MEDITERRANEAN
AND THE NORTH, TURKEY HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE
PROGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION BY IMPLEMENTING
HER SHARE OF FACILITIES AND PROVIDING THE SERVICES
REQUIRED IN ICAO PLANS.

TURKEY IS READY TO ACTIVATE FURTHER HER ROLE IN THE
ICAO; HER GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION IS A GUIDING
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FACTOR TO PLAY SUCH A ROLE, AS SHE IS PREPARED TO
FULFILL IT FULLY.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY REQUESTS THE
SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED BY THE
DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF TURKEY IN
THE SECOND CATEGORY OF THE ICAO COUNCIL, AT THE
FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS.

(COURTESY ENDING OMITTED)

END TEXT

2. IN MEETING WITH ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ON JULY 11,
ON ANOTHER MATTER, GUNDUZ GUNGEN, DIRECTOR GENERAL,
CIVIL AVIATION, TOOK OCCASION TO URGE US SUPPORT
FOR TURKEY'S CANDIDACY. GUNGEN ADDED FURTHER
ARGUMENTS TO THOSE IN NOTE IN FAVOR OF SEAT FOR
TURKEY. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH TURKISH DOMESTIC
AIR PASSENGERS MAKE UP ONLY ONE PERCENT OF PASSEN-
GERS CARRIED BY ALL TRANSPORT MODES WITHIN
THE COUNTRY, TURKEY ALLOCATES 15 PERCENT OF ITS TRANSPORT

BUDGET TO IMPROVEMENT OF ITS CIVIL AVIATION FACILITIES.
DISPROPORTIONATELY LARGE ALLOCATION REPRESENTS TURKEY'S
CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT WITHIN ITS
AREA. GUNGEN ADDED THAT BETWEEN 200-500 FLIGHTS PASS
THROUGH TURKISH AIRSPACE DAILY.

3. GUNGEN SAID THAT TURKEY WAS SEEKING TO WORK OUT A
ROTATIONAL ARRANGEMENT IN CATEGORY II WITH IRAN AND PAK-
ISTAN WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF ORGANIZATION FOR REGIONAL
COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT. IF THIS CANNOT BE PUT
TOGETHER, TURKEY WOULD BE A CANDIDATE ON ITS OWN IN
CATEGORY II. IF IT IS NOT ELECTED AS A CATEGORY
II MEMBER OF COUNCIL, IT WILL TRY FOR SEAT UNDER CATEGORY
III.

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4. ASKED WHETHER GREECE WAS ALSO CANDIDATE FOR COUNCIL
SEAT, GUNGEN REPLIED THAT IT WAS NOT AND DISCLAIMED ANY
POLITICAL MOTIVATION FOR TURKEY'S DESIRE TO
RETURN TO COUNCIL. HE SAID THAT TURKEY WAS ONLY SEEKING
TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL
AVIATION AND, AS COUNCIL MEMBER, TO MAKE EVEN GREATER
CONTRIBUTION.

5. GUNGEN PROVIDED INFORMATION WHICH HE SAID WAS
AVAILABLE TO HIM AS OF JUNE 16, CONCERNING OTHER
POSSIBLE CANDIDATES AND ASKED THAT EMBASSY PASS IT
ALONG TO DEPARTMENT. US OFFICIAL HAD INFORMALLY ASKED
HIM FOR SUCH INFORMATION AT A RECENT MEETING.

A. IN GUNGEN'S VIEW ALL PRESENT CATEGORY I COUNCIL
MEMBERS WILL BE CANDIDATES AND WILL BE RE-ELECTED.
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IS ALREADY OFFICIALLY A
CANDIDATE.

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MONTREAL FOR ICAO

B. IN CATEGORY II, EGYPT, ARGENTINA, SPAIN, MEXICO, PAKISTAN, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE CANDIDATES. GUNGEN BELIEVES THAT PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, SPAIN, EGYPT AND INDIA WILL ALL BE RE-ELECTED. HE THINKS THAT LEBANON MAY LOSE ITS PLACE.

C. FINLAND HAS JOINED SCANDINAVIAN ROTATION ARRANGEMENT IN CATEGORY II, WHICH ALREADY INCLUDES SWEDEN, NORWAY, AND DENMARK. FINLAND WILL SUCCEED SWEDEN ON COUNCIL.

D. BENELUX COUNTRIES HAVE FORMED A ROTATION SCHEME. SWITZERLAND MAY JOIN THEM. BENELUX GROUP WILL BE CANDIDATE IF COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP IS INCREASED FROM 30 TO 33. GROUP, WHICH COULD FIT INTO EITHER CATEGORY I OR II, DOES NOT WANT TO DISPLACE ANY OTHER COUNTRY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NETHERLANDS WOULD BE FIRST OF THESE COUNTRIES TO OCCUPY COUNCIL SEAT.

E. JAMAICA MAY BE CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO IN ROTATIONAL ARRANGEMENT IN GROUP II THAT ALSO INCLUDES BARBADOS AND GUYANA.

F. GHANA WILL BE A CANDIDATE. GUNGEN DID NOT KNOW WITH WHICH CATEGORY IT WOULD BE ASSOCIATED BUT THROUGH CATEGORY III.

6. COMMENT. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS DEPARTMENT'S DISINCLINATION TO SUPPORT TURKISH CANDIDACY (REFTEL). HOWEVER, AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER, WE BELIEVE

THAT USG WOULD BE MISTAKEN TO LINK COUNCIL SEAT FOR TURKEY WITH ERCAN ISSUE OR AEGEAN AIRSPACE DISPUTE. WE THINK US WOULD ACCOMPLISH NOTHING IN DOING SO. ON CONTRARY, WE ARE CONVINCED THAT BY MAKING LINK, WE WOULD BE ADDING ONE MORE GRIEVANCE TO ALREADY LONG LIST OF GOT GRIEVANCES AGAINST US AND WOULD STIFFEN GOT STAND ON ERCAN. WE COULD EXPECT TURKISH RESPONSE TO LINKAGE TO ERCAN TO BE SHARP SINCE ERCAN FIR ITSELF IS CREATURE OF AGGRIEVED FEELING IN TURKISH ZONE OF CYPRUS AND IN TURKEY.

7. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT HAS BEEN USUAL POLICY OF USG TO OPPOSE INTRODUCTION OF POLITICAL ISSUES INTO TECHNICAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE ICAO. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN ICAO THERE IS NO PRECEDENT FOR US TO TIE OUR SUPPORT FOR CANDIDATES EVEN TO TECHNICAL ISSUES. ERCAN AIRSPACE ISSUE, OF COURSE, IS HIGHLY POLITICAL AS WELL AS TECHNICAL MATTER.

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8. FOR ALL OF THESE REASONS, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT US DISSOCIATE TURKISH CANDIDACY FROM ERCAN AIRSPACE ISSUE AND AEGEAN AIRSPACE DISPUTE AND DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO SUPPORT TURKEY ON USUAL GROUNDS APPLIED IN CONSIDERING ALL OTHER CANDIDACIES.
SPIERS

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